

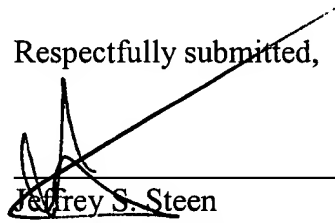
REMARKS

Claims 24-39, 42-47, 70-76, 78-82, 86, 91, 96-99 and 117 are currently pending in the present application. Claims 24 and 70 have been amended herein to recite that the bacteria are from the class of fluorescent pseudomonads. Support for the amendment may be found, e.g., at pages 9 and 18 of the instant specification. Accordingly, no new matter has been added to the application by virtue of the present amendment. Entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the outstanding rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants would like to express their appreciation for the courtesy extended by the Examiner in granting and conducting a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney for applicants on March 27, 2007. During the interview, the amendment of the claims as herein presented was discussed and indicated by the Examiner to overcome the existing rejection of claims 24-39, 42-47, 70-76, 78-82, 86, 91, 96-99 and 117, under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

A good faith attempt has been made to place all the claims in the present application in condition for allowance. If there is any point requiring discussion or clarification, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney for applicants at the below indicated telephone number for resolution.

Respectfully submitted,



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